RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) No systematic epidemiological survey has so far been conducted by Government of West Bengal. However, preliminary survey indicated that six districts namely: 24 Parganas (North), 24 Parganas (South), Nadia Burdwan, Murshidabad & Malda with population of 302.767 lakhs are affected by arsenic pollution.

(b) To supplement the efforts of Government of West Bengal in containing arsenic problem, Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment, Government of India, have extended financial assistance and technical assistance to the Government of West Bengal, under Sub-Mission activities for launching various projects briefly summarised as under:

(i) Sub-Mission on Arsenic Pollution in ground water in West Bengal (approved at Rs. 10.82 lakhs, in Jan. 1988).

(ii) First phase action plan for Arsenic affected areas of West Bengal (approved at Rs. 961.85 lakhs in Feb. 1994).

(iii) R&D project on Arsenic in Ground Water in Six Districts of West Bengal. (submitted by Jadhavpur University, Calcutta at Rs. 73.486 lakhs and was approved at Rs. 4.125 lakhs in March, 1994 for one year).

(iv) Epidemiological study of chronic toxicity in West Bengal (approved at Rs. 4.60 lakhs during Dec. 1994).

(v) Water Supply schemes in Arsenic affected areas of Malda district (250 villages & 695 habitations with 10.87 lakh population in 3 blocks, approved at Rs. 8848.00 lakhs in Feb. 1995).

Low priority works under JRY

6514. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that low priority has been extended to the works like social forestry, making the land cultivable, development of small irrigation watersheds projects, development of grassland under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of the above said works during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that no priority is extended to the incomplete works under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) The works like social forestry, making the land cultivable, development of small irrigation watersheds projects, development of grassland can be taken up under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana by the implementing agencies, depending upon the local needs and also following the guidelines of the Yojana. A statement giving the Statewise details of these works, during last 3 years is Annexure. [*See* Appendix 173, Annexure No. 135]

(c) and (d) Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, priority should be given for the completion of the incomplete works over the taking up of new works and no works shall be taken up by the implementing agencies which cannot be complete within 2 years.

Proposal received from Israel for Transferring Technology and seedlings for plantation

6515. SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from Israel on transferring